

Judge says discrimination claim unsupported

AARON SUDHOLT
NEWS EDITOR

A lawsuit filed by four police officers against SIUE claiming discrimination was dismissed in Federal District Court.

Federal District Court Judge Patrick Murphey dismissed the lawsuit May 17. It claimed the

university had discriminated against four black police officers.

The suit was first filed in 2002.

The officers claimed that the university had disproportionately assigned black officers to the East St. Louis campus, had failed to promote them to sergeant and retaliated against them with

harassment and were fired after they had filed the discrimination lawsuit.

According to a press release from the university, Murphey dismissed the case "with prejudice" citing that the officers had failed to provide support for their claims.

"Chief Judge Murphey's

Order has confirmed what the university has stated from the beginning, that there was no breach of civil rights, and that all administrative actions taken in this matter were appropriate and lawful," Southern Illinois University Spokesperson for the Office of the President David Gross said in a statement Friday.

A call to the office of the lawyer representing the officers was not returned.

Gross refused further comment and said the case was still pending. The officers will have 30 days from the ruling to decide if they wish to exercise an appeal or let the case finish with the current ruling.

Inclusive Activity Night a hit



ANDY RATHNOW/ALESTLE

Joseph Jaworski-Mailes, 5, and senior Tanya Moussalli play with building blocks at the Inclusive Activity Night Thursday. The activity night allowed students from Special Education 442 to impliment activities they had designed for children, regardless of their abilities.

Theater and Dance offering new degree in education

STEVE BRITT
NEWS REPORTER

The Department of Theater and Dance now boasts a new degree that was five years in the making.

SIUE is now one of three colleges offering a theater education degree for undergraduates.

"Illinois State University and Eastern Illinois University pretty much serve the northern half of Illinois and Chicago. We're going to serve the other southern half."

About six students have already expressed interest and have been "kind of waiting" for this program, Sweezey said.

Three faculty members are employed for the program and a

"We don't expect a lot (of students) the first year,"

~Theater and Dance Chair Otis Sweezey

request for another faculty member is at the dean's level, Sweezey said. "We need another to help juggle the duties."

"It's going to allow students to prepare for certification to teach theater at the middle school and high school level," Theater and Dance Chair Otis Sweezey said Tuesday.

The program will probably be able to handle around 25 students, Sweezey estimated.

However, he doubted the department would have to turn students away and that demand

see THEATER, page 2

Deer attack at SIUC to defend their young



PHOTO COURTESY RICHARD ESSNER

A fawn rests in foliage near East University Drive May 21. White-tailed deer fawns are helpless at birth, and are often left alone by their mother to keep them hidden while she is nearby.

AARON SUDHOLT
NEWS EDITOR

Hikers should be wary of angry mother deer while

traveling paths through wooded areas on campus.

Three people were injured in three separate incidents when a female white-tailed deer attacked

May 23 on a path at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

At SIUC last year, the school reported nine similar incidents.

The attacks usually happen as deer fawning season begins, the time of year when fawns are born and mother deer may aggressively protect their young.

SIUE Facilities Management Assistant Director Dave Partney said there were no known reports of deer attacks on the SIUE campus this year. He also said in the two years he has worked at the university he had never heard of a deer attack on campus.

"As a general rule, they're going to be really defensive of their young," SIUE biology professor Richard Essner said.

Deer fawns are unable to move their first month of life, according to Essner. Left alone by their mothers, they rely more on camouflage and lack of scent to provide protection from

predators than having a much larger doe stand over them and give them away. The mother will instead stay nearby, keeping watch over the fawns from a distance, while allowing them to maintain their hiding spot.

Because of this defensive technique, a fawn is often found alone and people will approach and pet it. When the mother doe spots this happening, she may charge them.

In addition, a loss of habitat can make deer much more nervous than they would be otherwise, Essner said. Since SIUE has a lot of forest areas and probably has a much higher deer population than is normal for a regular forested area, the deer have many places to live. At the SIUC campus, which Essner said had less forest than SIUE, the deer may feel more crowded and therefore more prone to attack.

The attacks at SIUC

happened on a footpath near housing and roads surrounding SIUC's Campus Lake.

SIUE extends no control over the deer on campus. Partney said that the university does not do anything to reduce their numbers.

"Nothing at all," he said.

If you see a deer that may be acting aggressively toward you, do not be afraid to run from it.

"Generally deer will give you plenty of warning," Essner said. "Deer just want you to get away from their young. They're not predators."

Essner said deer often stamp their feet and snort in order to show their intentions first. According to Essner, if a deer does act aggressively, climb a tree or run away.

Anyone attacked by a deer should report the incident to local police and seek medical attention if necessary.

Nobody dreams of having multiple sclerosis.

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To help make the dream of ending MS come true, visit us online at nationalmssociety.org, or call 1-800-FIGHT MS.



THEATER

from page 1

would be reasonable.

"We don't expect a lot (of students) the first year," Swezey said.

Requirements for the program include a 2.5 grade point average and a C or better grades in required courses.

For more information about the program, visit the Theater and

Dance Department in Dunham Hall Room 1031, or call the department at 650-2773 Monday through Friday.

Formula SIUE rushes Detroit

AARON SUDHOLT
NEWS EDITOR

Formula SIUE raced more than 120 universities and colleges from around the world at the Formula SAE event in Detroit, only to be disappointed when they were disqualified on a technicality.

The car went to Detroit to compete and raced in a series of competitions during the week of May 14. Though it did make it through the initial inspection, the dynamic, skid pad and acceleration events, the endurance event ended with the team disqualified after the car spilled water from its radiator onto the ground during a pit stop. Engine Team Leader Chris

L. Mohn said 70 percent of the teams were disqualified from the endurance event.

Formula SIUE created a formula race car that had a top speed of about 45 mph. The cost of the car for the competition had to be less than \$25,000, with Formula SIUE's being about \$18,000. It took team members four months to build.

"This is the first year we're doing it," Formula SIUE Team Leader David Trojahn said.

Formula SAE is sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers and offers students from all over the world a chance to compete against one another.

The group raised \$8,000 through fundraising efforts and School of Engineering Dean Paul

Seaburg and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Narbeth Emmanuel each gave \$5000, Trojahn said.

The car ran on four cylinders and had an intake of 12 cubic centimeters, which was the limited intake the car was allowed.

Nine people from the team went to the event.

Despite the failure, the team can try again.

"Oh well, there's always next year," Mohn said in an e-mail.

"We want to thank the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor Emmanuel," Trojahn said.

According to the official Formula SAE results, Formula SIUE finished 93rd overall.

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Boyd Bradshaw headed off to U of L

AARON SUDHOLT
NEWS EDITOR

SIUE Enrollment Management Assistant Chancellor Boyd Bradshaw will be leaving for the University of Louisville July 1.

Bradshaw will become the Assistant University Provost for Enrollment Services at U of L.

According to Bradshaw, SIUE and U of L are not that different.

"The university is a similar institution to SIUE except bigger," Bradshaw said. "One of my professional goals would be to have a position like this."

When Bradshaw is formally a part of the U of L, he will be a senior staff member.

Bradshaw said he has his coworkers to thank for the opportunity to begin work at U of L. "I wasn't actively looking to leave SIUE. I got nominated for the position," he said.

Bradshaw said SIUE has allowed him to have room to work with new ideas in order to make the university better. "Working at SIUE has been a great experience for me," Bradshaw said. "Under our leadership at SIUE, we have been allowed to try new things to reach

Development Center Director Jean Paterson will fill Bradshaw's position.

Paterson said she intends to try to keep the job. Until a decision can be made, she will serve temporarily.

"I'm very grateful to the university for giving me the opportunity," Paterson said.

"I felt that it was time to step-up and maybe move-up if possible. As the CDC director,

"Working at SIUE has been a great experience for me."

~SIUE Enrollment Management

Assistant Chancellor Boyd Bradshaw

our goal."

Bradshaw came to SIUE in 1999 and he said that he has been at SIUE longer than he stayed with any other institution.

His last day at SIUE will be Friday, June 16.

Until a national search committee can choose his replacement, SIUE Career

Paterson said that she often advises students to make similar moves.

The Career Development Center will not be short-handed, according to Paterson. She will retain her position there as well. "Our office will still be covered," she said.

Police Incidents

Traffic

5/24

Police issued John W. Achurch a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Jung Hyun Kim citations for speeding, failing to secure a child in a child seat and expired registration on North University Drive.

Police issued Britian T. Oates a citation for speeding on North University Drive.

Police issued Terri S. Morgenroth a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on North on University Drive.

Police issued Hae Jin Yi a citation for the operation speeding on Stadium Drive.

of an uninsured motor vehicle on North University Drive.

Police issued Ashley N. Duffin a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Ryan M. Brink a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Rachel M. Ottens a citation for speeding on University Drive.

Police issued Kristen A. Bray a citation for speeding on University Drive.

Police issued Matthew Williams a citation for speeding on Stadium Drive.



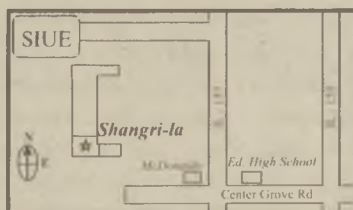
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We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar and content. However, great care will be taken to ensure that the message of the letter is not lost or altered.

Letters to the editor will not be printed anonymously except under extreme circumstances.

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Have a comment?

Let us know!

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OPINIONS & EDITORIAL



WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 2006

WWW.THEALESTLE.COM

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Avoid becoming roadkill this summer



During summer holidays, students' busy schedules of cookouts, sporting events and pool parties often require highway travel. The "Click It or Ticket" campaign is one effort made by law enforcement agencies to promote safety during travel seasons.

Although the Memorial Day "Click It or Ticket" is winding down, it is crucial that drivers adhere to safety rules year-round. Doing so may not only help motorists avoid run-ins with the law, but also prevent accidents, from fender benders to fatalities.

Since the beginning of summer, I've been on the road a lot, mostly traveling between SIUE and my hometown. That time on the highway has provided an opportunity to get some serious thinking done.

This week is the five-year anniversary of a fatal accident back home that had a profound effect on the community as a whole. This week also marks six months since a girl I grew up with died in a car accident driving back to college after the Thanksgiving holiday. On top of that, a good friend totaled his truck last week, but luckily escaped injury.

Yep, traffic safety is definitely on my mind right now.

According to the Illinois Department of Transportation, 464 traffic fatalities have occurred so far this year. Last year, 1,360 people died on the road.

That's way too many.

So what can be done? We've heard it all before: wear a seatbelt, obey traffic laws, don't drink and drive, so on and so forth. From kindergarten on, these basic concepts are drilled into our heads.

However, it seems that even the most elementary safety concepts are easily thrown out the window on the highway. If you tend to forget the basics, here is a quick refresher course.

Get a designated driver.

You've heard the slogan, "Drive hammered, get nailed." After a night out on the town, the last thing anyone wants is a DUI – or worse, an accident. IDOT reports 86 alcohol-related traffic deaths to date in 2006. Don't be No. 87.

Take a nap. Who doesn't love a good nap, anyway? Instead of driving tired, pull over and catch a wink or two.

Get off the phone. I, like many other drivers, am definitely guilty of this one. Instead of keeping both eyes on the road, we've got one hand on the phone and our minds set on the conversation. Cell phones impair drivers both physically and mentally. Note to self: shut up and drive.

Wear a seatbelt. I don't pretend to be a scientist, but here's a basic physics lesson: if you're traveling at 60 mph and hit a tree, your body will keep moving at 60 mph even though the vehicle isn't. My 10th-grade physical science teacher demonstrated this to us with a doll and a small car, but I think the mental image is convincing enough.

All in all, don't be stupid. This basically covers any other problem. Stop swerving, speeding and merging erratically while painting your nails, reading Cosmo and balancing your checkbook. Perhaps what drivers need is a simple dose of common sense.

Drive now, juggle later.

After all, we want to see you back in the fall.

Megan McClure
Editor in Chief

Letter to the editor— Student discourages music downloading

The music industry could be facing a crisis because of the number of young people still illegally downloading from the Internet. Music artists can't get the true recognition and respect they deserve because of piracy, which is the illegal downloading and bootlegging, of music.

The digital youth of today are being brought up on a near limitless diet of free and disposable music from file sharing networks like BearShare and LimeWire. Past research suggests only 5 percent of all Internet consumers pay to download music while 15 percent share the music without paying for it. In the 15-24

year age group, 34 percent admitted to sharing music online without paying for it.

This problem is important for me because I know I am a "starving" music artist trying to get a big break, and if I ever get to the level to sell my music on a national level then I would like to make some money for my efforts.

This problem can be resolved simply by having music lovers purchase their favorite music right out of the store so that purchases count when it is time to give recognition to the deserving artist. The solution can be effective because Nielsen Sound

Scan keeps a record of every album sold for billboard charts and other things like awards and sponsorships.

The basis of my position is music artists who work hard to produce good music deserve to get paid for their efforts, ability and time spent because art is a necessary part of human dignity and life. Without our favorite artist making good music that we want to hear, life would be missing a big part of every culture.

Music is too important to people; we want to support our artists. Morally, people should pay for music correctly. People could say that music artists still make money from shows and concerts, but artists still would not get recognition such as awards and sponsorship.

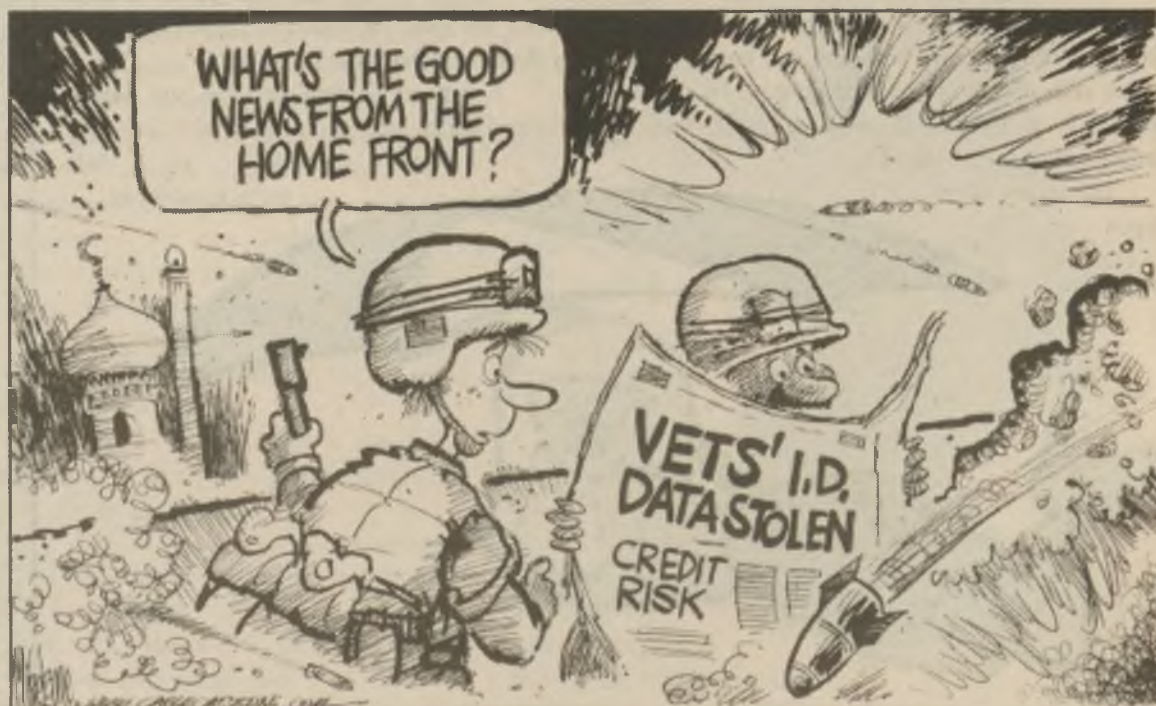
As it is, music artists make approximately two dollars for every album sold. Don't they deserve all of their sales?

If fans purchase more music legally then the music industry will thrive for centuries to come. But, if we continue to download illegally, our music industry ultimately could crash.

DeAngelo Henderson
Sophomore
Construction Management

*"Music artists
can't get the true
recognition and
respect they
deserve because
of piracy ..."*

Political cartoon



Don't get baked

Despite the dangerous consequences of tanning, students continue to ignore the warnings



COURTNEY RAKERS
MANAGING EDITOR

For some students, tanning is as large a part of a health and beauty regimen as working out or going to the salon.

It has become a part of our culture. Fashion magazines are filled with glossy images of tanned, glowing celebrities. Many students, particularly women, feel that having a tan improves their image.

Yet, even though the dangers of tanning are numerous and well-publicized, many people aren't getting the message.

"Students do not seem concerned, not at

"Students do not seem concerned ... They don't perceive it as a risk ... of getting skin cancer."

~Health Services Nurse Karrie Schaefer

all," SIUE Health Services Nurse Karrie Schaefer said. "They don't perceive it as a risk ... of getting skin cancer."

Megan Kniffen, a senior in business administration, said she regularly tans three times per week.

"I just put on lotion (in the tanning bed)," Kniffen said. "If I'm outside, I wear sunscreen."

Kniffen said she was "not concerned" about the risks associated with tanning, and felt that her friends do not worry about the risks either.

According to the Food and Drug Administration's Web site, ultraviolet radiation from the sun, tanning beds and sun lamps may cause skin cancer. UV radiation has also been linked to a weakened immune system and premature aging of the skin.

There are two types of UV radiation: UVA,

the deeper-penetrating form of UV associated with melanoma, and UVB, which is responsible for sunburns, tans and other types of skin cancer.

"The number of skin cancer cases has been rising over the years, and experts say that this is due to increasing exposure to UV radiation from the sun, tanning beds and sun lamps," according to the FDA. "More than 1 million new skin cancer cases are likely to be diagnosed in the U.S. this year."

Malignant melanoma, which is linked to UVA exposure, can be fatal if not detected early.

The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2006 there will be 62,190 new cases of melanoma skin cancer, an increase of 4.3 percent over 2005. Almost 8,000 people will die from the disease.

Schaefer said tanning beds seem to be a large part of the problem with students' attitudes toward skin safety.

"They don't relate the tanning bed as the same risk," Schaefer said. "They don't relate the risk to themselves."

"People think that because it's controlled it's less of a risk. Because they're monitoring it ... (they think) 'If I go get a base tan I don't need to use sunscreen because I won't burn.'"

Many students are at an age where skin safety is particularly important. Experts estimate that more than 50 percent of skin damage occurs before the age of 18, so it is particularly important for students to take a proactive approach to skin safety.

Skin cancer does not discriminate between young and old.

Schaefer said Health Services has seen instances of young students with skin cancer. Although she said the students were fair-skinned, putting them at an even higher risk, it can happen to anyone.

"It's tough to hit the age group that it affects," she said. "It's hard to understand why they don't correlate the risks."

For more information on sun safety and skin cancer facts, contact Health Services at 650-2842 or visit www.cancer.org.



KATY HARTWIG/ALESTLE

Junior JoBeth Fondren, front, and sophomore Shannon Smith tan at the Cougar Lake Pool and Marina.

TIPS FOR SKIN SAFETY

- *Avoid the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- *Seek shade: Look for shade, especially in the middle of the day when the sun's rays are strongest. Practice the shadow rule and teach it to children. If your shadow is shorter than you, the sun's rays are at their strongest.
- *Slip on a shirt: Cover up with protective clothing to guard as much skin as possible when you are out in the sun. Choose comfortable clothes made of tightly woven fabrics that you cannot see through when held up to a light.
- *Slap on sunscreen: Use sunscreen with a sun protection factor of 15 or higher. Apply a generous amount (about a palm full) and reapply after swimming, toweling dry, or perspiring. Use sunscreen even on hazy or overcast days.
- *Slap on a hat: Cover your head with a wide-brimmed hat, shading your face, ears and neck. If you choose a baseball cap, remember to protect your ears and neck with sunscreen.
- *Wear sunglasses with 99% to 100% UV absorption to provide optimal protection for the eyes and the surrounding skin.
- *Follow these practices to protect your skin even on cloudy or overcast days. UV rays travel through clouds.

Information courtesy of the American Cancer Society





Stress and the sun

Ohio State University researchers link chronic stress to a higher incidence of skin cancer

JORDAN GALLOWAY
THE LANTERN

COLUMBUS, Ohio (U-WIRE) - Even the most laid-back students find themselves falling victim to more stress.

Yet, students wanting to forget their worries by sunbathing might want to think twice.

Ohio State University researchers have found a new link between chronic stress, ultraviolet radiation and skin cancer. Their evidence shows being stressed out might leave the body less capable of warding off skin cancer.

"There are studies showing that stress causes a whole bunch of different changes in terms of healing and in terms of other types of cancer," Tatiana Oberyshyn, assistant professor in the Department of Pathology at Ohio State University, said. "No one ever looked to see whether or not stress had any affect on skin cancer."

Alison Saul, a graduate student in biomedical sciences and member of the study's research team, said the 34-week study began in the summer of 2003. A group of 16 mice were split equally between two groups. Both groups were exposed to UVB light three times a week for 10 weeks. For 21 days during that 10-week period, one group of mice also spent six hours each day undergoing psychological stress, Saul said.

"This stressor that we use is moderate with no physical components," Saul said. "This would be applicable (to) any psychological stress that people experience. Like when you study for massive amounts of exams."

For those six hours, each stressed mouse was confined to individual restrainer, a plastic tube covered with breathing holes in which the mouse had limited mobility. Saul said it could be equated to a mouse being trapped in a collapsed burrow.

The experiment took a special kind of mouse called an SKH1 mouse. Oberyshyn said the only difference between this mouse and a regular mouse is that SKH1 mice are hairless. Effects in these mice closely mimic effects that could be found in humans, she said.

Researchers found that while both groups of mice formed tumors from UV light exposure, the stressed mice formed nearly twice as many tumors.

"Whether you're under stress can be detrimental to you in terms of how your immune system will be able to respond to something like (skin cancer)," Saul said. "People who are under a lot of stress need to be more careful about how much time they're spending in the sun and how much protection they're putting on. You just have to realize that our results have shown that stress can affect skin cancer development long term."

Oberyshyn said the most common cancer in the United States is skin cancer.

"There's actually been about a three-fold increase in number of skin cancers in women under the age of 40," Oberyshyn said.

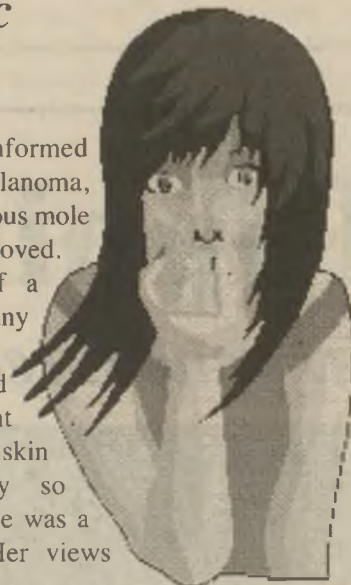
In January 2006, Lauren Logozzo, a senior in psychology, began to notice a mole on her foot that seemed out of the ordinary.

"I began to notice that I had one mole that was becoming very dark," Logozzo said.

Her doctor informed her that she had melanoma, and that the cancerous mole needed to be removed. The darkening of a mole is one of many melanoma signs.

Logozzo said she never thought she would develop skin cancer, especially so young. She said she was a frequent tanner. Her views have since changed.

"Now, I don't go out with out sunscreen," she said. "Normally I wear SPF 30. I don't go to tanning beds anymore either."



"People who are under a lot of stress need to be more careful about how much time they're spending in the sun and how much protection they're putting on."

~Ohio State University researcher

Alison Saul



KATY HARTWIG/ALESTLE

Freshman Jennifer Ritchie, an early childhood education major, works as a lifeguard at the Cougar Lake Pool and Marina.

WHAT SKIN TYPE ARE YOU?

Skin type plays an important role in the risks of skin damage, and can help students to better protect themselves from the sun.

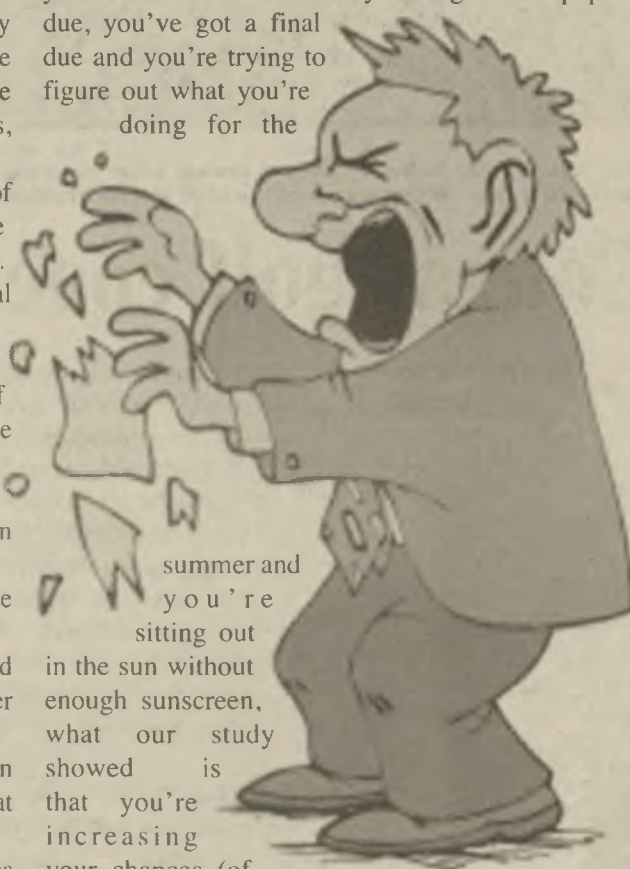
- I Always burns; never tans; sensitive. Usually bright white or pale skin, blue or green eyes, red hair and many freckles. This skin type always burns outdoors, never tans.
- II Burns easily; tans minimally. Beige skin, blue or grey eyes; blonde or light brown hair and some freckles. This skin type has a strong tendency to sunburn outdoors, but sometimes tans.
- III Burns moderately; tans gradually to light brown. Light brown skin, brown eyes and hair. This skin type sometimes burns outdoors but always tans.
- IV Burns minimally; always tans well to moderately brown. Light brown or olive skin, dark brown eyes and hair. This skin type sometimes burns outdoors and tans readily.
- V Rarely burns; tans profusely to dark. Brown skin, dark brown hair and eyes. This skin type rarely burns outdoors and tans easily.
- VI Never burns; deeply pigmented, not sensitive. Black skin, black-brown eyes and hair. This skin type rarely sunburns outdoors.

Information courtesy of www.tanningfacts.com

Even if the elimination of all stressors was possible, taking preventative measures with sun exposure is the most effective way to stay protected.

"Use a shot-glass full of sunscreen every time you put it on, and reapply it every couple of hours if you're going to be outside for long periods of time," Oberyshyn said. "If you're studying for finals and you're stressed out because you've got three papers due, you've got a final due and you're trying to figure out what you're doing for the

summer and you're sitting out in the sun without enough sunscreen, what our study showed is that you're increasing your chances (of developing skin cancer)."



"You don't win the silver, you lose the gold."
~Mean Jean Oakland



Rippin' and runnin' for gold

Six school records fall as SIUE thrives at NCAA Championships



KATIE GROTH/ALESTLE
SIUE junior Julia Scherer takes a breath after clearing the final hurdle of a race during a recent meet at Korte Stadium.

MALLORY HENSLEY
SPORTS STRINGER

All hail the SIUE men and women's track and field teams as they return from the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships with ten All-American individual athletes and an All-American relay team. The Cougars found bountiful success at Welch Stadium in Emporia, Kan., shattering six school records and taking the SIUE athletics program to new heights.

"I was really proud that Holly was this year's national champion. She is one of the hardest working girls that I have ever had the privilege to work with in the track and field program," women's assistant coach David Astrauskas said. "It was incredibly competitive. The way she won, on the last throw, beating the girl by 2 centimeters, was just incredible."

Leading the men's effort was sophomore Kyle Rose. Rose competed in the 400-meter dash, coming in behind Abilene

before the race," men's assistant coach Ben Beyers said. "He executed perfectly, with a tremendous race."

Thrower and jumper Phil Freimuth threw the javelin 219-01, earning third place and All-American honors. Freimuth was the only Cougar to place third in an event.

"Phil had a very nice meet. It was incredible, really. He threw 14 feet farther than he ever has before, which was a true testament to his ability and his strong work ethic," Astrauskas,

"I hope we continue to improve and to bring pride to the Cougar program and to the school as a whole."

~SIUE Women's Track Head Coach Ben Beyers

Both the SIUE men and women's teams took seventh place in the competition. Senior Holly Noller ended her SIUE career with a bang, outshining the other women javelin throwers to take the gold. Noller's toss of 160 feet, 4 inches edged out Central Washington's Katie McMeel by a mere hair. McMeel also had a hurl of 160-4, but her distance was two centimeters shorter. Noller's throw blew the previous school record to bits, setting a new mark nearly 10 feet farther.

Christian University's Jordan Johnson. Abilene Christian placed first in the men's competition. Junior Jonathan Bannister set the 400-meter school record last season at 46.95 seconds. Rose improved the time by 71 milliseconds, earning him an All-American status.

"We changed our race strategy at the last minute, right before Kyle had to line up on the track. He was able to process the information that I gave him right

who is also the head coach of the men's team, said. "He hit the weights hard all year, and it paid off at the end. Placing third is quite an accomplishment at a national meet."

Four Cougars became All-Americans with fourth place finishes in their respective events. Junior sprinter Tairisha Sawyer set a new school record of 24.16 seconds in the 200. She

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Cougar golf coach steps down Baseball team adds hitting for next year

MATTHEW BRUCE
SPORTS EDITOR

A new leader will be at the helm of the SIUE golf program next year.

Former SIUE Head Coach Mark Marcuzzo resigned last week from the position after leading both teams back to the NCAA Tournament this past season. The former Cougar athlete will leave the post to pursue an opportunity in Arizona.

"I am very pleased with the way he restarted the men's golf program and kept the women's

program on solid ground," SIUE Athletic Director Brad Hewitt said in a press release.

Under Marcuzzo's tenure, the men's team made its way back onto the SIUE roster of intercollegiate sports after a ten-year hiatus and had a surprising level of success. Marcuzzo guided the team to a fourth-placed finish at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional Championships April 3 as junior Kyle Lickenbrock placed third, shooting two under par.

Fellow juniors Kyle Gansauer and Craig Heinzmann garnered All-Great Lakes Valley

Conference honors for their performances this season.

Marcuzzo led the women's team to its fourth consecutive appearance in the NCAA Tournament in his first year at the helm after stepping up from assistant coach. The Cougars finished fifth in the NCAA East Regional.

Junior Brittany Hood led the team and earned an All-GLVC bid last week. She averaged a team-best score of 81.9 per 18 holes last season.

Despite Marcuzzo's

see RESIGNATION, page 7

GEOFF SCHARDAN
SPORTS STRINGER

Coming off a stellar season that culminated in a strong showing in the NCAA North Central Regionals, the SIUE baseball team has picked up five new players for next year. SIUE added two freshmen and three transfer students for the 2007 season.

The Cougars lost six pitchers and three fielders from this past season's roster that lead the team

to its first 40-win season in five years.

One of the freshmen is Lyle Winter, a six-foot right-hander who pitched for the Southern Illinois Bullets during the summer. Last summer he was 2-0 with a 1.29 ERA. He went to Pinckneyville High School where he was All-Conference in 2005.

The other freshman is Dustin Brooks from Rantoul High

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RESIGNATION

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departure, the women's team has something to smile about as it added more firepower for next season, signing Freeburg standout Olivia Fox to a national letter of intent Friday.

Fox finished sixth in the

Illinois High School Association State Championships as a senior last season and took 27th place as a junior.

According to Hewitt, the search for a new part-time coach is under way.

SIGNINGS

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School. He is a catcher who brings a much needed bat to the SIUE lineup, along with some speed. He led the team in batting average, hitting .520 with 36 RBIs and 20 doubles. He also had 16 stolen bases and a whopping .770 slugging percentage.

Daniel Thomson comes to the Cougars from Illinois Valley College and has two years of eligibility left. Thomson is originally from Brisbane, Australia and is a third baseman that spot pitched for Illinois Valley Community College. Thomson led the team in batting average at .374 to go along with

10 home runs and 46 RBIs. He also pitched 27 innings and had 22 strikeouts.

Steve Doll spent the last year at Southwestern Illinois College where he played first base. He missed the last 18 games of the season with an injury, but still managed to lead the team in home runs with six and RBI's with 33. He also toted a team-best batting average of .397.

The Cougars also added Gerad Bryan, a junior transfer from Jefferson Junior College. The 6-foot-1-inch, right-hander tossed 41 innings last season with a 3.29 ERA and 27 strikeouts.

TRACK

from page 6

shaved 25 milliseconds off the previous record, which she set in 2004. Freshman sprinter Deserea Brown became the first Cougar in history to break the 60-second barrier in the 400-meter hurdles. Her time of 59.33 seconds did not earn her a medal, but escalated her to an All-American in her debut year in the championships.

"Tairisha has had a phenomenal season. To cap it off with a fourth-place finish is wonderful, and I attribute that to her hard work and perseverance," Beyers, who is also the women's head coach, said. "Deserea has had a dream freshman season, and topped it off with an All-American performance. She has come a long way, and is going to get better and better. She is a true student to the sport."

Representing the men's team were juniors Brian Taghon and Anthony Weber. Taghon, a distance runner, placed fourth in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

"Brian is still fairly new at the steeplechase," Beyers said. "For him to perform how he did at the national level speaks volumes."

Weber tied for third in the pole vault with Grand Valley State University's Bryant Wilson,

but settled for fourth place in the tiebreaker. Weber set the pole-vaulting record last season at 16-04.75.

"(Weber) has continued to progress since he got here," Astrauskas said. "This is his second full year at SIUE. He is a guy that really works hard, especially considering how he is always on his own, since he is the only pole-vaulter that we have. He has come a long way over the last few years."

Senior Steve Landers capped off his athletic career by placing fifth in the men's discus with a throw of 168-07. Fellow tosser Callie Glover placed fifth in the hammer throw with a hurl of 179-02.

"Callie started off the competition with a 177-foot throw. She has always been clutch at big meets. I was glad to see her do so well," Astrauskas said. "This was Steve's last meet. It was his first time competing in a national meet. He showed a lot of composure to start off with, and followed up well. I am really happy that he was able to end his career on such a high note."

Teammate Christine Butler also placed fifth. Her 41-03.25 mark in the triple jump earned her All-American honors, along

with Glover and Landers.

"Christine is now a three-time All-American in the triple jump. She had a two-foot improvement upon last year's performance. Her willingness to work and condition and her ability to pick up technical nuances of the event will allow her to continue to get better," Beyers said.

Freshman sprinter Angel Royston, junior hurdler Valerie Simmons and senior sprinter Kimetha Williams also earned All-American titles through their participation in the women's 4x400 meter relay. Royston and Simmons teamed up with Sawyer and Brown in the preliminaries, while Williams replaced Simmons in the finals. The squad beat the previous school record, set earlier this season, by three seconds to place third.

"One of our far-off goals for this year was to finish in the top 10 nationally," Beyers said. "This has been a phenomenal achievement. It is the highest we have ranked on either side, and to do it with both the men and women's teams is amazing."

"I hope we continue to improve and to bring pride to the Cougar program and to the school as a whole," he added.

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